AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-34 (Cancelled)

Claim 35 (Currently Amended) A method of using an information processing apparatus for processing data related to a table format, the information processing apparatus including (i) a means to generate and store table format data that represents the table format, the table format data including character string data specifying a code string and a position of a character string on the table format, and including cell data specifying a boundary position of a cell, which is a rectangular area in which data is written in a form of ~~the~~ one character string or two character strings on the table format, (ii) a means to input specific information to the table format, (iii) a means to display the table format based on the table format data, and (iv) a means to store data files, the method comprising:

specifying item definition data that defines a corresponding item name, as first tag information, for each of a plurality of data-fields, each respective data-field being a rectangular area in which data associated with the corresponding item name is written, the corresponding item name for each of the plurality of data-fields being defined by recognizing, as a data-field that corresponds to the corresponding item name, a set of cells having a specific relation to a term representing the corresponding item in a form of a character string to which specific marking information is added on the table format;

specifying difference condition data, as second tag information, for a data-field ~~each of the plurality of data-fields~~ for which a first ~~the corresponding~~ item name is defined, the difference condition data being defined for the data-field, for which the first item name is defined, ~~each of the plurality of data-fields~~ based on inputted specific information added to the

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corresponding data-field having the specific relation to the ~~data-field for which the first item name is defined~~ term, the difference condition data ~~for each of the plurality of data-fields~~ defining a difference between data input conditions of first and second kinds of unitary data areas, which are each a rectangular area in which single data is written, included in the corresponding data-field, wherein first constituent data of the difference condition data specifies the difference, regarding data of a second item name registered in the difference condition data as second constituent data, between the first and second kinds of the unitary data areas, and wherein the data of the second item name constitutes the data input conditions for the first and second kinds of the unitary data areas along with data of item names other than the first item name ~~and constitutes data of item names other than the corresponding item name~~;

recognizing two kinds of unitary data areas in the data-field for which the first item name is defined ~~in a corresponding data-field for which the corresponding item name is defined~~, the two kinds of unitary data areas being recognized based on ~~the~~ inputted specific information added to the corresponding data-field and cell data for the corresponding data-field, wherein the inputted specific information is attached to the second kind of the unitary data area with the specific relation; and

outputting data from a source data file into a unitary data area included in the corresponding data-field for which the first ~~corresponding~~ item name is defined, the outputting of the data being defined by the following sequence:

generating a first record, which is a combination set of data associated with each ~~the corresponding~~ item name, as the data input condition of a unitary data area if the unitary data area is of the first kind, wherein each data constituting the first record is read from a cell in each of the plurality of data-fields ~~the corresponding data-field~~, each ~~the~~ cell, from which the data

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constituting the first record is read, ~~of the corresponding data field~~ having a specific positional

relation with the unitary data area of the first kind;

generating a second record, which is a combination set of data associated with

~~each the corresponding~~ item name, as the data input condition of the unitary data area if the

unitary data area is of the second kind, the second record being generated by changing data

associated with the second item name ~~and~~ constituting the first record, based on the first

constituent data, of the difference condition data, representing the specified difference regarding

the data of the second item;

comparing each record that is fetched from the source data file with a

corresponding data input condition of the unitary data area, the corresponding data input

condition being the second record when the unitary data area is of the second kind, and the

corresponding data input condition being the first record when the unitary data area is of the first

kind, wherein each data that constitutes a data file record, of the source data file, associated with

each item name other than the first item name, ~~corresponding item name~~ is judged to be equal to

or included by the data that is associated with a same item name constituting the first record or

the second record; and

outputting the data associated with the first ~~corresponding~~ item name that

constitutes a selected data file record to the unitary data area, wherein the selected data file

record is selected based on a condition that the judgment is obtained for each item name

considered by the comparison.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 35, wherein the two kinds of unitary

data are recognized by dividing one cell within the corresponding data-field associated with the

corresponding item name into two areas, and adding the specific information including a symbol or a graphic into the one cell.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 35, wherein the second record is generated by replacing the data associated with the second item name constituting the first record with the first constituent data of the difference definition data specifying the difference regarding data of the second item name.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 35,

wherein the specific information added to the corresponding data-field, for which the corresponding item name is defined to indicate the difference condition data, consists of a combination of a first term representing data specifying the difference regarding the second item name with a second term representing the second item name, and

wherein the first term is in a form of a character string with first specific marking information, and the second term is in a form of a character string with second specific marking information.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended)   An information processing apparatus for processing data related to a table format, the information processing apparatus comprising:

a means to generate and store table format data that represents the table format, the table format data including character string data specifying a code string and a position of a character string on the table format, and including cell data specifying a boundary position of a cell, which

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is a rectangular area in which data is written in a form of ~~the~~ <u>one</u> character string or two character strings on the table format;

a means to input specific information to the table format;

a means to display the table format based on the table format data;

a means to store data files;

a means for specifying item definition data that defines a corresponding item name, as first tag information, for each of a plurality of data-fields, each respective data-field being a rectangular area in which data associated with the corresponding item name is written, the corresponding item name for each of the plurality of data-fields being defined by recognizing, as a data-field that corresponds to the corresponding item name, a set of cells having a specific relation to a term<u> representing the corresponding item</u> in a form of a character string to which specific marking information is added on the table format;

a means for specifying difference condition data, as second tag information, for<u> a data-field</u> ~~each of the plurality of data-fields~~ for which <u>a first</u> ~~the corresponding~~ item name is defined, the difference condition data being defined for<u> the data-field, for which the first item name is defined,</u> ~~each of the plurality of data-fields~~ based on inputted specific information added to the corresponding data-field having the specific relation to the<u> data-field for which the first item name is defined</u> ~~term~~, the difference condition data ~~for each of the plurality of data-fields~~ defining a difference between data input conditions of first and second kinds of unitary data areas, which are each a rectangular area in which single data is written, included in the corresponding data-field, wherein first constituent data of the difference condition data specifies the difference, regarding data of a second item name registered in the difference condition data as second constituent data, between the first and second kinds of the unitary data areas,<u> and</u>

wherein the data of the second item name constitutes the data input conditions for the first and second kinds of the unitary data areas along with data of item names other than the first item name ~~and constitutes data of item names other than the corresponding item name~~;

a means for recognizing two kinds of unitary data areas in the data-field for which the first item name is defined ~~in a corresponding data-field for which the corresponding item name is defined~~, the two kinds of unitary data areas being recognized based on ~~the~~ inputted specific information added to the corresponding data-field and cell data for the corresponding data-field, wherein the inputted specific information is attached to the second kind of the unitary data area with specific relation; and

a means for outputting data from a source data file into a unitary data area included in the corresponding data-field for which the first ~~corresponding~~ item name is defined, the outputting of the data being defined by the following sequence:

generating a first record, which is a combination set of data associated with each ~~the corresponding~~ item name, as the data input condition of a unitary data area if the unitary data area is of the first kind, wherein each data constituting the first record is read from a cell in each of the plurality of data-fields ~~the corresponding data-field~~, each ~~the~~ cell, from which the data constituting the first record is read, ~~of the corresponding data-field~~ having a specific positional relation with the unitary data area of the first kind;

generating a second record, which is a combination set of data associated with each ~~the corresponding~~ item name, as the data input condition of the unitary data area if the unitary data area is of the second kind, the second record being generated by changing data associated with the second item name ~~and~~ constituting the first record, based on the first

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constituent data, of the difference condition data, representing the specified difference regarding

the data of the second item;

comparing each record that is fetched from the source data file with a

corresponding data input condition of the unitary data area, the corresponding data input

condition being the second record when the unitary data area is of the second kind, and the

corresponding data input condition being the first record when the unitary data area is of the first

kind, wherein each data that constitutes a data file record, of the source data file, associated with

each item name other than the first item name, ~~corresponding item name~~ is judged to be equal to

or included by the data that is associated with a same item name constituting the first record or

the second record; and

outputting the data associated with the first ~~corresponding~~ item name that

constitutes a selected data file record to the unitary data area, wherein the selected data file

record is selected based on a condition that the judgment is obtained for each item name

considered by the comparison.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable recording medium having a computer

program recorded thereon, the program being for controlling an information processing

apparatus to process data related to a table format, the information processing apparatus

including (i) a means to generate and store table format data that represents the table format, the

table format data including character string data specifying a code string and a position of a

character string on the table format, and including cell data specifying a boundary position of a

cell, which is a rectangular area in which data is written in a form of ~~the~~ one character string or

two character strings on the table format, (ii) a means to input specific information to the table

format, (iii) a means to display the table format based on the table format data, and (iv) a means to store data files, the program causing the information processing apparatus to execute a method comprising;

specifying item definition data that defines a corresponding item name, as first tag information, for each of a plurality of data-fields, each respective data-field being a rectangular area in which data associated with the corresponding item name is written, the corresponding item name for each of the plurality of data-fields being defined by recognizing, as a data-field that corresponds to the corresponding item name, a set of cells having a specific relation to a term <u>representing the corresponding item</u> in a form of a character string to which specific marking information is added on the table format;

specifying difference condition data, as second tag information, for <u>a data-field</u> ~~each of the plurality of data-fields~~ for which <u>a first</u> ~~the corresponding~~ item name is defined, the difference condition data being defined for <u>the data-field, for which the first item name is defined,</u> ~~each of the plurality of data-fields~~ based on inputted specific information added to the corresponding data-field having the specific relation to the <u>data-field for which the first item name is defined</u> ~~term~~, the difference condition data ~~for each of the plurality of data-fields~~ defining a difference between data input conditions of first and second kinds of unitary data areas, which are each a rectangular area in which single data is written, included in the corresponding data-field, wherein first constituent data of the difference condition data specifies the difference, regarding data of a second item name registered in the difference condition data as second constituent data, between the first and second kinds of the unitary data areas,<u> and</u> wherein the data of the second item name constitutes the data input conditions for the first and

second kinds of the unitary data areas along with data of item names other than the first item name ~~and constitutes data of item names other than the corresponding item name~~;

recognizing two kinds of unitary data areas in the data-field for which the first item name is defined ~~in a corresponding data-field for which the corresponding item name is defined~~, the two kinds of unitary data areas being recognized based on ~~the~~ inputted specific information added to the corresponding data-field and cell data for the corresponding data-field, wherein the inputted specific information is attached to the second kind of the unitary data area with the specific relation; and

outputting data from a source data file into a unitary data area included in the corresponding data-field for which the first ~~corresponding~~ item name is defined, the outputting of the data being defined by the following sequence:

generating a first record, which is a combination set of data associated with each ~~the corresponding~~ item name, as the data input condition of a unitary data area if the unitary data area is of the first kind, wherein each data constituting the first record is read from a cell in each of the plurality of data-fields ~~the corresponding data-field~~, each ~~the~~ cell, from which the data constituting the first record is read, ~~of the corresponding data-field~~ having a specific positional relation with the unitary data area of the first kind;

generating a second record, which is a combination set of data associated with each ~~the corresponding~~ item name, as the data input condition of the unitary data area if the unitary data area is of the second kind, the second record being generated by changing data associated with the second item name ~~and~~ constituting the first record, based on the first constituent data, of the difference condition data, representing the specified difference regarding the data of the second item;

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comparing each record that is fetched from the source data file with a

corresponding data input condition of the unitary data area, the corresponding data input

condition being the second record when the unitary data area is of the second kind, and the

corresponding data input condition being the first record when the unitary data area is of the first

kind, wherein each data that constitutes a data file record, of the source data file, associated with

each item name other than the first item name, ~~corresponding item name~~ is judged to be equal to

or included by the data that is associated with a same item name constituting the first record or

the second record; and

outputting the data associated with the first ~~corresponding~~ item name that

constitutes a selected data file record to the unitary data area, wherein the selected data file

record is selected based on a condition that the judgment is obtained for each item name

considered by the comparison.